

**The Times-Dispatch**  
DAILY-WEEKLY-SUNDAY

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1910.

**STEALING CONTINUES STEALING.**  
The Knoxville Journal and Tribune miss altogether the point of our protest against the pension policy of the Government at Washington. We do not object, and never have objected, to ample provision for the Federal soldiers who were actually disabled by their service to their country; but our contemporary knows that there are thousands of men sharing the bounty of the Government who never felt a wound or smelt burning powder.

Since 1865 the Government at Washington has paid out in pensions \$3,848,599,721, more than eight times the total value of all the real and personal property returned for taxation in the State of Tennessee. The pensions paid to the soldiers of the Revolution aggregated \$70,000,000; to the soldiers of the War of 1812, \$45,757,396; to the soldiers of the Indian wars, \$9,985,609; to the soldiers in the war with Mexico, \$42,452,784; to the soldiers in the Spanish-American War and in the Philippines, \$26,252,505. "Savings the Union" has cost the United States since the war closed in 1865 in the way of pensions \$3,554,079,127 more than the cost of the war which made the Union, the wars since that time against England, the Indians, Mexico and the Spaniards. Not satisfied with what they have already taken for their services in the field and in the sutlers camps and for humbling, hardly a session of Congress passes when some new scheme is not presented for further robbery of the Treasury in the name of patriotism.

This is the point of all that we have said against the pensioning of men who fought in the United States armies. The plan now is to put all the soldiers who fought in the volunteer regiments on the pension lists, whether they fought or not, and whether they suffered any injury from their service or not. Col. Charles Francis Adams, of Massachusetts, has made a most vigorous protest against the shame and dishonesty of the plan, and we agree with him, as all honest men must agree with him. It is a shame to the real soldiers of the country that they permit such schemes without resistance, that they compound such felony, that they sit idly by while the noncombatants and the grand army of pension agents perfect their plans for still further robbery of the Treasury, thus bringing themselves into contempt by suffering so-called "patriotism" to be made a matter of merchandise.

Our Tennessee contemporary writes in a perfectly beautiful way about how "every time the hour hand goes around the dial plate of the clock, an average of five of them hear taps; and join their comrades on the other side of the river." That is magnificent, but it is not honest. Forty-five years after the war closed, there are 946,194 pensioners on the rolls, and the list is steadily lengthening. It cost last year \$2,852,583 to disburse the pension funds, and since 1866 it has cost \$115,705,060 to pay out the money to the pensioners. We would have every soldier who fought in the Union armies and who suffered injury from his service taken care of by the Government; but we would have the pension lists purged from top to bottom, so that when the hour hand moves around the dial of the clock there will be five men who can go to the river with clean hands and tell them that their country has not forgotten them and has refused to become the prey of the predatory gang of forgers who are still doing business at the old stand.

**A BLOW FOR DECENCY.**  
The National Poster Printers' Association is an organization of men who are meeting together at Cincinnati to see how they can make larger dividends on their invested capital. They are not a religious body, and have no connection with any philanthropy; but they have their ideas of common decency and are planning to strike a blow for it. At the opening of their session the other day the Secretary of the Association made a speech in which he declared that the Poster Printers should take a very positive position for decent advertising. "Short skirts and tight suits must go from the billboards," he said. "We will not print anything that a reputable newspaper or magazine would reject."

The Association supported its Secretary in this utterance, and will go on record before very long as refusing to print any posters that are an offense to decency. If they do, they will have achieved something worth while. The bill boards in some cities are often the parading ground of indecency. Plays which have no merit

and which have no claim on the theatre-going public have no other way to draw a crowd than to advertise indecency, and they have no other channel than the billboards. The bills with which they "attack a town" are sometimes an insult to the modesty of a decent people and to the morality of society. The removal of the posters by the police is not always easy, and their spread is hard to control, but when the men who print the bills refuse to circulate indecency the nuisance will be abated.

**DARK DAYS FOR CITY BONDS.**  
Philadelphia pride received an awful blow and Philadelphia municipal credit was sadly shaken the other day when it was found that the new bond issue of \$4,000,000, offered by the town, had not been taken. The bonds are to bear four per cent, and are probably well secured, but bids for only \$821,000 were received. At the same time Baltimore four per cent, city stock, offered to the amount of \$2,400,000, was almost withdrawn, owing to the low bids made by men who over-subscribed it seven times.

These incidents represent a curious situation in municipal finance, and one which is almost paradoxical on its face. Of course, Philadelphia has worse city government than Baltimore—which is no great compliment to either town—but if the rotten municipal rule be responsible for the failure of the city's bond market, it is hard to see why Philadelphia was able, very recently, to sell three and one-half per cent. bonds at par, when New York City bonds, offered at the same time, found no purchasers.

The explanation given for the failure of the Philadelphia issue and for the low prices offered in Baltimore is a growing distrust in bonds. The money market is firm, and business is steady, but the reports of increased gold production are alarming cautious investors. They are afraid, in many instances, that the steady increase in the volume of gold will discount bond interest and will make four per cent. gold bonds a very poor return for their money.

This is the view which financiers in some quarters are taking of the situation, but it is hard to see how it is justified. Even if the gold supply of the world increase so that it affect bond-interests, general interest rates will be reduced at the same time, and the standard of credit will remain as before.

**WORKING DAY TOO LONG.**  
The Rev. Charles Steble, superintendent of the department of commerce and labor of the Northern Presbyterian Church, made a speech to the General Assembly at Atlantic City the other day, in which he asserted that "the present working day from a physiological standpoint is too long. It keeps the majority of men and women in a constant state of fatigue; it leads to the craving of means for the deadening of fatigue and induces drunkenness and other excesses." Brother Steble seems to have forgotten that some must work while others pray. How does he expect to keep up the collections if the industrialists only work just enough to keep themselves going. There must be some unearned increment, so to speak, for the support of the institutional religion of these times.

**A SURE WAY TO ATTRACT NOTICE.**  
An ignorant ass, an unprincipled demagogue or the paid hireling of baleful influence is the classification in which William P. Hackney, of Kansas, would include every man who opposes ship subsidy. Hackney, who has since been busy explaining how he came to use such language. Speaking before the House Ship Subsidy Investigation Committee last Monday he declared that his lurid phraseology was merely intended to attract attention, and really was not meant to be serious. Hackney made no mistake in judging that these words would draw attention, for he did not err, as many men do, in supposing that accused men would pause to consider the source, but he made the mistake of his life in supposing that this was either an honest, a legitimate or a fair way of attracting notice. The common scold deserved the ducking-stool in old England, and the common libeler in new America deserves a lariat and a short shrift. If some of the men whom Hackney attacked had ridden out to his place in Kansas and disposed of the mischief maker, the coroner need not have held an inquest.

The advocates of the ship subsidy steal have been most unfortunate in their selection of champions. Penton, the editor of their organ, and one of the most scurrilous writers in the American press, did their unholy cause a great deal of harm, and Hackney, in this utterance, certainly did it no good. It begins to look as though Nemesis had overtaken the ship subsidy crew.

**NOT GOOD HISTORY.**  
Senator Depew is no more the political rascal some of his enemies represent him to be than he is the political oracle some of his admirers hold him to be. He has made mistakes and he has made revelations, but his mistakes have been more numerous than his revelations of past political history have been credible. Senator Depew grew reminiscent in the Senate on Monday, when the Naval Appropriations bill was under discussion, and gave what purported to be the inside history of the clash with England over Venezuela in the good old days of Grover Cleveland. The Senator's story was widely circulated in the press, and reflected great glory upon Queen Victoria and King Edward. But for the latter, Senator Depew said, we might have been hurled into a war with England. It is a pity there is no more than

rumor upon which to base this story. If true, it would be pleasant to recall at any time, and doubly pleasant while the memory of the late King is fresh. Unfortunately, the story will not stand close scrutiny. Had Lord Salisbury wanted to declare war, as Senator Depew avers, he could not have done so without the support of Parliament as well as of the Queen. The former, as we recall, was as much opposed to hostilities as the Queen was, and would effectively have thwarted any plans made by the Premier—if he made any.

**THE COLONEL IS COMING.**  
The Colonel will reach New York on June 18. He will have a perfectly grand reception. Everybody that is anybody will be there to greet the returning warrior home; the spear that knows no brother, the Hero of San Juan Hill, even if he were not there, the Gordon Cummings of the Twentieth Century before whose unerring aim hecatombs of victims fell in African jungles and on the veldt, the intimate of kings and princes and men of royal blood and yet the friend of Seth Bullock and the patron of Pinchot. We agree with Congressman Weeks, of Massachusetts, that the Colonel "has stood for big things, and is one of the world's big citizens," and that "the demonstration is to be non-partisan. If it had any political significance it would be unworthy of the occasion."

Roman Emperor never made such a triumphal entry as this great tribute of the People will glorify in the commercial capital of this grateful and foolish country. He will have no captives chained to his chariot wheels, no slaves in fetters will side step the Colonel's car; but with shout and song and blast of trumpet and rattle of drum and clank of sabre, and wreaths of flowers and waste of oratory he will be acclaimed The World's Greatest Living Man, which is to say, the greatest man that ever lived. Why he is the greatest man we do not know, and nobody can tell us; but he is and whatever is.

We have missed him now for over a year in our own, our native land; the wisdom of his counsel, the bravery of his deeds, the eloquence of his speech, the brilliancy of his statesmanship and the ever grateful lawlessness of his leadership. Since he left us, we have had a quiet time, comparatively, and have been gradually returning to a condition of sanity; but, oh! Lord, how dull it has been. No tennis at the White House, no wrestling matches, no forced marches through Rock Creek, no hundred and fifty miles a day on horseback, no activity in Annapolis circles, no panics. We have felt, we suppose, very much as the people in Paris felt after the French Revolution and the rule of the mob was followed by a condition of law and order. We really like the Roosevelt way best, not because it is the best for the material prosperity of the country, but because it is so exciting and it makes so much "copy" for the newspapers.

We are glad that he is coming back, not because the country needs him, but because the sooner he comes the sooner it will be over. He may let old Taft off this time and give him another chance; but whatever he shall conclude to do, we wish him to know that we have always been his friend. Long before he ever wore khaki breeches and whipped the Spaniards, we loved him and defended him against all his enemies, and here we take our stand to do or die for the Colonel. Welcome home, heir of all the ages, child of Destiny, puissant lord. But, dear Colonel, remember that, in spite of what the dean of Upsala said about thee, thou art but mortal. Where is Caesar? where is Napoleon? where is Xerxes? where is Alexander? Dead and turned to clay. Where is Hayes and Roscoe Conkling and Schuyler Colfax and Caleb Smith? Gone, all gone, and as they are now, oh! Colonel, we hate to say it, but we must, so you must be after all the shouting dies away.

**"EXPLOITATION."**  
There is to be a meeting in Atlanta on June 9. It will be attended by representatives of the commercial bodies in Georgia "to federate their various activities for Georgia's development." "The psychological hour has struck," we are told by the Constitution, "for Georgia to unite in such a campaign of exploitation as has never been projected in any Southern State."

"For months past The Constitution has steadily been driving away at the sleeping Southern railroads, calling upon them to do their part, to the end that the tide of sturdy American emigrants might be turned from Canada toward this section."

It is equally incumbent upon the people of the South, of Georgia, in this instance, to abandon their lethargy and coordinate their endeavors in a crusade aimed practically at practical results. On the same day at Paris, Cone spoke to 1,800 stalwart people. "He had the pleasure of shaking hands with many of his admirers as a military band discoursed 'Dixie.' He was taken through the residence part of the town in an automobile, and met big delegations of friends from Honey Grove, Blossom, Ben Franklin, Petty, Enloe and other places, and when he finally 'ascended the stand' from which he spoke, he 'saw a large streamer strung in front of him,' bearing upon its silken folds this inscription: 'Noblest Roman of Them All: Cone Johnson, the People's Candidate for Governor.' It does not matter what he said—as matter of fact he did not say anything that

We would remark, in conclusion, that we do not like the word, "exploitation." Its specific meaning, according to the Century Dictionary, is "the act of exploiting solely for one's own purposes or advantage; selfishness or employment, regardless of abstract right; self-seeking utilization." If what some of the brethren have said be true, there has been too much of this sort of thing in that neighborhood. The Macon, Augusta, Savannah and Brunswick newspapers will thank us, of course, for drawing the Dictionary on them, and will immediately advise the commercial bodies of their respective communities to keep their eyes open and their heads on their shoulders when they go up to the home of Exploitation.

**"AGAIN THE GOVERNMENT."**  
The Cleveland Plain Dealer is fully convinced that the Government is against the people. It has searched the political scriptures; it has followed the proceedings of Congress; it has trod the tangled mazes of the Ballinger investigation; it has patiently pursued the President in all his public utterances, and, having done all, it stands on the same platform. It says: "Our hands are tied. Congress refused us the sort of tariff we wanted and gave us a bill we did not want. . . . Our Government, it seems, is in league against us. Our representatives, who should think our thoughts and feelings, no longer represent us. They govern us. The servants have become the masters."

This is an awful picture, but it is painted on the wrong canvass. The fault is not with the Government, but with the men who control the Government, and the method of reform lies simply in changing the men who have the power. The Government is the people, and the safety of the Government is simply the proper record of the popular will.

Too many papers make a point of being "again" the Government, instead of against the men who misuse the powers of government. Like Huck Finn's pa, they abuse the Government simply because it is the Government, and do not remember that the Government is simply what the people make it.

**GOLD AND MORE GOLD.**  
We never heard a man complain because he had too much money, unless he belonged to that class which is soon parted from its money, but if we may believe what the statisticians tell us, the trouble with America today is that we have more money than we know what to do with it. Somehow these stray billions do not come this way, even in dribbles, but they are going somewhere and are flooding the money markets of the world until the banks are overflowing, the corporations bloated and the plutocrats are enlarging their barns.

Steadily and without intermission, the mass of gold mined in the world has increased in the last few decades until it is beginning to have a serious effect upon other commodities. During the years 1882-95, a period of fourteen years, the annual production of gold, the world over, was about \$128,000,000. During the next fourteen years, ending in 1909, the average was \$220,000,000, and during the four years since 1905 the annual output of the gold mines has been about \$120,000,000 the year. The present seems to be the banner year, with a gold output even above these figures for the months already passed.

The more gold we have the cheaper gold is, and the more our mines yield the more the real value of gold declines. If we were increasing in the production of other commodities and in manufactures in proportion to the increase in the gold supply, trade would take up the surplus from the mines; but as matters stand we have more than we need. The things which gold buys are going up as gold goes down, and the mischief of the whole matter is that we cannot eat bullion.

**"THE PEOPLE'S CANDIDATE."**  
As the campaign in Texas proceeds and the enthusiasm of the populace knows no bounds, the Houston Post is pressing the claims of its candidate, Cone Johnson, with great cleverness and almost pathetic loyalty. It does not always appear in what it says so much as in the way it invariably presents Cone's case in its news columns. Last Saturday, Cone spoke from an improvised rostrum in a building which was used until two months ago as a liquor saloon, and with his supporters seated around him on empty whiskey boxes, he pressed with all the ardor of his nature the cause of prohibition. There was something really dramatic in the mise en scene, all arranged, as we have no reason to doubt, by the local representative of the Cone Johnson Organ.

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was worth saying, but he said it—and that was enough; the people did the rest as they will continue to do until after the election. Upon the conclusion of his address at Paris seven bouquets of flowers were presented to him by as many flower girls dressed in white. After the speaking Cone was escorted to Roston by a number of his friends in automobiles, and there he made another trash-moving address, and thence he passed on to other counties.

All this must be costing the Houston Post a great deal of money—white dresses and flowers for the little girls, streamers for the stage, vacant liquor saloons for the Campaign of Temperance, and automobiles for Cone and his friends; but the Post doesn't care. It is making more and more money every day, and it is spending it like the game chicken it is for the election of Cone. Yet they say that newspapers should keep out of politics.

**FASTING AND HABIT.**  
Dr. Gustav A. Gayer, of New York, recently decided that he was eating too much. His mind was sluggish, his complexion was bad, his hair was falling out, and he had that doleful furtive feeling that comes to most men in Spring, unless they enjoy the breezes of Richmond. In addition, Dr. Gayer believed in auto-suggestion, and he decided to kill two birds with one stone—to try auto-suggestion and to cure his bodily ills by fasting. Accordingly, he ate nothing for eight days, did not smoke and refreshed himself only with water. The eight days are past, and the Doctor is still alive. He says that he is a better man in every way than he was last Tuesday week. He lost 15 pounds of flesh, to be sure, but his mind is fresh, his spirit revived, his hair no longer falls out and, he thinks, it is turning darker.

Not knowing Dr. Gayer, and never having heard of him until now, we cannot vouch for any changes in his personal beauty, but we do not doubt his premise was right if his conclusion be wrong. We eat too much, at least those of us who have the chance, and we pay the price in heavy minds, lazy bodies and a thousand stomach woes. Eating is very much of a habit, after all, and a man eats three meals a day, not generally because he needs them, but because he is accustomed to them. Were he to cut the number to two and reduce the quantity one-half he would probably not be the loser. One need not follow Dr. Gayer, or his distinguished predecessor, Dr. Fletcher, to realize that temperance is a virtue and that a full stomach is an enemy of mind and body.

Montague Triest, of Charleston, was complaining Monday of the heat in Richmond. He ought to be something of an expert, after all these years, on thermal subjects. Last Saturday, the only figures now available for comparative purposes, the minimum temperature in Charleston was 70; in Richmond it was 64, a considerable difference when one has not taken them off. Besides, Richmond is only 3.55 inches behind in rainfall since the first of January, while Charleston is 7.60 inches short on water. We were about to say that there is no place like—well, never in mind.

If any claims are to be registered about the comet, we beg to state that people in Blessed Richmond, came nearer seeing the comet than the unfortunates living elsewhere without this Garden of Eden.

President Droop, of the National Piano Convention, called at this office the other day to return his thanks and the thanks of all the members of the convention for the admirable reports of the proceedings of that body published in The Times-Dispatch. That was a very nice thing for him to do. The fact that this sort of manners does not always obtain among those who have the benefit of publicity did not make his call any the less welcome.

We are told that the first carload of Texas watermelons was shipped from that State on May 20, the same being the anniversary of the Mocklenburg Myth. The watermelons were no more like watermelons of the true Virginia type, which is the purest watermelon in the world, than the Myth was like a real Declaration of Independence. The date selected for the shipment of the Texas cymbalings was well chosen.

The Navy Department conducted the tests on the old ram Kaffudin with "great secrecy" in order not to let the public know the merits of the new sub-headed shells. In other words, it will be about a week before everybody knows everything about the tests.

**Daily Queries and Answers**

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

**Public Lands in America.**  
Please give me the total area of public lands in America as yet unappropriated. A. B. C.  
731,354,901 acres, including 368,916,033 acres in Alaska.

**Commission on Country Life.**  
Please tell me when the President's commission on country life was appointed and when it made its report. Was this report ever printed? A. B. C.  
The President appointed this commission without the authority of Congress in August, 1903, and the commission reported January 23, 1905. The report was printed, but as it was very bulky, it was not widely circulated.

**Nickname of Arkansas.**  
What is the nickname of Arkansas? A. B. C.  
The Bear State.

**Twenty Between China and Japan.**  
Can you tell me the date of the recent treaty between China and Japan regarding the railroads and mines in Manchuria? X. Y. Z.  
September 4, 1905.

# GREECE OWES DEPT TO KING GEORGE

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.  
GREECE owes a deep debt of gratitude to King George, for, while his ministers and the principal statesmen of his kingdom have been engaged in a long series of foolish schemes, which have accomplished nothing beyond discrediting the nation to a still greater degree abroad even than formerly, he has been successfully using his personal influence with the foreign powers to secure through them from the Sublime Porte, its consent to the destruction of the very brief connecting link between the northernmost point of the Hellenic railroad system, at Larissa, and the point of the Ottoman railroad system nearest the Greek frontier. For several years Greece has been vainly endeavoring to secure this connection on the part of Turkey. But it was in vain. For Sultan Abdul Hamid held that as long as Greece was out of from railroad communication with the remainder of Europe her growth and development would be impeded and her prosperity impaired. He did not consider it of advantage to the Porte that Greece should be strong and rich.

When Abdul Hamid was overthrown, negotiations were again started by Athens with the new Turkish government, in the expectation that the latter would prove more amenable. But just at this time the military regime in Greece acquired the upper hand, and there was so much talk in connection therewith of a war with Turkey for the final emancipation of Crete, that, of course, matters did not progress. At length, when things quieted down, King George took hold of the subject himself, and insisted that the Greek statesman or diplomat, caused the question to be reopened at Constantinople, and insisted that the Sultan, brother-in-law, the late King Edward, and of his nephew, the late King Nicholas of Russia.

The two ambassadors called the attention of the new Sultan to the fact that if Greece had been restrained from attacking Turkey, from offering any direct provocation of a nature to compel the Porte to declare war, last year, it was wholly due to the influence of King George, and that from an Ottoman point of view it would be infinitely better to strengthen his hand at Athens, and to give a firm established government, here capable of keeping the disorderly elements under control, than some revolutionary junta, or succession of military dictators, to be certain to promote trouble in Crete and to constitute a menace and a source of disorder along the entire frontier of the empire. They argued that a prosperous Greece, busily engaged in developing her industries, would prove far more profitable to the Sultan than a Greece that was cut off from any connection by land with the remainder of Europe.

It is in acceptance of these views and with a desire of strengthening George's throne, and at the same time of recognizing what he has done to prevent the subjects from embarking upon hostilities against Turkey, that the Sultan has at length granted the firm and the shortening of the link of the Ottoman and Grecian railroad systems, which can easily be completed within a few weeks.

Thanks to this, the journey from Vienna to Athens will be reduced from four to less than two days, and, thereby, the most important of the great routes from Salonica or from Brindisi to the Piræus, which have been the only means of reaching Athens until now, will be avoided. As Athens is

**When You Go Away From Home**

where you are not known, you may have trouble in supplying yourself with funds, unless you carry

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